

**Remarks**

Reconsideration of the rejection of the subject matter of all claims is requested. Claims 7, 12, 20 and 25 have been cancelled by this amendment. Consequently, claims 1-6, 8-11, 13-19, 21-24, and 26 remain in the case for examination.

Claims 6, 11, 19, and 24 were objected to for not clearly stating what the correlation data is compared with. These claims have been amended to provide that the phases of the correlation data are compared to identify the clusters. Since the amended claims 6, 11, 19, and 24 now essentially incorporate the limitations of claims 7, 12, 20, and 25, the latter claims have been cancelled.

The objection to claims 6, 11, 19, and 24 has therefore been overcome.

The specification was objected to because of missing application numbers and filing dates for the cited applications. The missing information has now been provided, and this objection has been overcome. (Note also that the title of one of the applications has also been corrected.)

Claims 1, 4, 9, 14, 17, and 22 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,378,101 B1 issued to Sinha, et al. Sinha et al is directed to decoding of broadcast information where programs are provided in clusters and frame synchronization information is also provided.

It is respectfully submitted that Examiner has not fully appreciated the differences between the claimed invention and the cited art. In particular, the independent claims 1, 4, 14, and 17 all include the limitation that the cluster synchronization information for each cluster is identical, while claims 9 and 22 include the limitation that the cluster synchronization information is the same for at least two of the clusters. As discussed in the present specification at page 15, lines 10-16, the use of one identical cluster synchronization word for the clusters is an important feature of the invention since it avoids the degradation associated with the use of different words for different clusters.

Nothing in Sinha et al teaches the possibility of using the same synchronization word for multiple clusters. Consequently, Sinha et al does not teach the claimed invention.

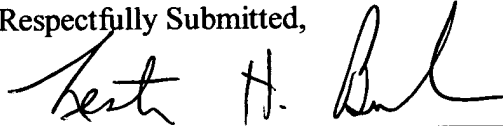
It is submitted, therefore, that claims 1, 4, 9, 14, 17, and 22 are allowable over the cited art. The remaining claims are all dependent upon one of these claims, and consequently, would be allowable without the need for further discussion. For Examiner's information, it is believed that the present application and Sinha et al were commonly owned at the time of the invention, and Sinha et al would not be available as a 103 reference. Proof of common ownership is not necessary in view of the allowability of the independent claims.

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The allowability of subject matter included in claims 7, 12, 20, and 25, and now in claims 6, 11, 19, and 24, is acknowledged. These claims were not rewritten in independent form in view of the allowability of the present independent claims.

Passage to issue is requested.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Dated:

12/4/03

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